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James O'Hara
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GP/3725
g/Plen Art
6-11-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Joseph G. Farmerie

Serial No.: 09/997,678

Filed: November 29, 2001

For: FOOD WASTE DISPOSER HAVING A
MECHANISM AND METHOD FOR
CREATING A WATER BAFFLE TO
REDUCE NOISE

Group Art Unit: 3725

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: 10807.0098.NPUS00
(EISE:098---)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT


Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

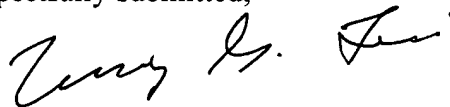
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The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of a first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits, and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2508/10807.0098.NPUS00/LWT.

With reference to the Japanese reference, number C1, an English translation of this reference is not available to the Applicant at this time. As such, because of the significant expense in obtaining a full translation, only a copy of the original document is being filed herewith for reference number C1. However, should the Examiner believe that a full translation would be necessary, Applicant will gladly provide a full translation at the Examiner's request. In compliance with 37 C.F.R §§ 1.98(3),(i), a concise statement is provided of the relevance of the Japanese reference, number C1, listed on the PTO Form 1449 that are not in the English language. As it is presently understood by the undersigned Attorney, the Japanese reference, number C1, discloses a method of reducing noise in a food waste disposer by covering the drain opening during operation.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered and made of record in the present case, and that the Examiner initial the spaces on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 to evidence the same.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 17, 2002